

Belt Line Road Church of Christ

“...churches of Christ salute you” (Rom 16:16)
Established 33 AD

October 30, 2017
Volume 9 Number 38

1202 N. Belt Line Road
Irving, TX 75061
972/790-8606

Web site:
www.beltlinechurch.com

Schedule of Services

Sunday:
Bible Class.....9:00 a.m.
AM Worship...10:00 a.m.
PM Worship.... 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday:
Bible Study.... 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday:
Ladies' Bible Class(Sept.–Apr.)
Class meets at 10 a.m.

Evangelist

Don Hatch
Email:
don-hatch@sbcglobal.net

ELDERS

Jerry McKey
Richard Renfro
Dean Webb

DEACONS

Darrell Allen
Glen Kelly
John Mayer

SECRETARIES

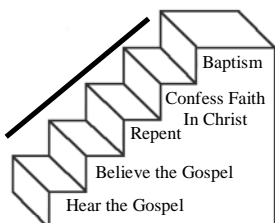
Janice Daniel & Jerry Grantham
beltlinechurch@sbcglobal.net

CUSTODIANS

Mike & Elizabeth Garrison

THE GOSPEL PLAN OF SALVATION

Hear-Romans 10:17
Believe-John 8:24
Repent-Acts 17:30
Confess-Romans 10:10
Be Baptized-Acts 22:16
Saved - in Christ (Galatians 3:27)



Baptism

Don Hatch

One of the points of contention in the religious world has been baptism. Most religious groups who are considered “Christian” have a mode of baptism that range from dipping, plunging, sprinkling, pouring, drenching and even immersion. However a Greek Lexicographical works by W.E. Vines say, it consists of the processes of immersion, submersion and emergence never pouring, sprinkling or drenching. The word baptism has been Anglicized from *baptisma* or *baptismos* to baptize.

New Testament baptism is not a ceremonial act as the Jews performed when they made a proselyte. It is a command to be immersed into the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sin (Acts 2:38). It was appointed by the Savior prior to His ascension and became the mean to be in Christ (Gal 3:27; Eph 1:3). What one does when he is baptized is likened unto a burial (Rom 6:1-11). It is where the old man of sin dies and arises to walk in the newness of life. Emphasis is made by saying baptism is being “buried with him in baptism” (Col 2:12). Pouring, sprinkling would hardly qualify as a burial and is without biblical example or authority.

Baptism had a clear declaration of the object in view. The individual who had come to believe that Jesus Christ of Nazareth was the Son of God, who had repented of personal sins, confessed that Jesus Christ was the Son of God could be baptized in His name for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38). Some teach that there is no rigid command regarding the order and sequence of the action to be taken to becoming a Christian. However there are clear Bible examples of the sequence. Everyone must **believe** Jesus is the Son of God before they can proceed to a point of **repenting** of sins. Without **repentance** of sins, it would be impossible to **confess** that Jesus as the Son of God who has all authority over one’s spiritual life. One must confess with the mouth Jesus as Lord before baptism (Rom 10:1-15). In **all cases of conversion**, candidates were baptized for the remission of sins. Salvation is deliverance from sin. The overwhelming teaching of the Bible is that candidates copied Christ death and were crucified and buried in baptism (Rom 6:1-11). Baptism saves one from sins (Mk 16:15, 16; Act 2:38).

The element in which one must be immerse is water. Some have tried to make it the Holy Spirit. However, the Bible says only Christ could

baptize in the Spirit and the disciples were to baptize in water. Holy Spirit baptism was never for the remission of sins. A biblical example is the Ethiopian near Gaza. After being taught of Jesus, he saw water and requested baptism. The Philip and the eunuch both went down into the water and the eunuch was baptized (Act 8:26-40). The only means allowed disciple for baptism was in water, in the name of Christ and for the remission of sins. Obviously, baptism of infants imposed by some is a flagrant violation of biblical commands. Infants cannot fulfill the steps required and a parent cannot by proxy fulfill the steps for them. Because baptism is a command it is significant that one must obey this command in order to be saved (Mk 16:15, 16). Children are not sinners and do not need to be saved. There will be a time when they are accountable for their person sins and at that time, they will need to follow the plan for salvation.

Bible baptism is for the remission of sins. Many believe baptism is important and contend that it is a command of God, but teach one is saved before baptism. A question must arise, how can one be saved prior to being immersed for salvation. This would be an oxymoron where contradictory terms are combined. Baptism is not something one does after salvation; baptism is for remission of sins (Acts 3:38; 1 Pet 3:21). Logically it is inescapable that baptism is a command. It that must be obeyed in order to be saved and one is not saved until they have been immersed for that reason. Scriptures teach that one believes and is baptism in order to be saved (Mk 16:15, 16). Those who obey from the heart will have been buried in baptism and are freed from sin (Rom 6:1-10; 15-18). Baptism washes away sin (Acts 22:16; 1 Pet 3:21). From these scriptures, one can conclude baptism is a command of God to be obeyed and one is not saved until baptized. Jesus placed baptism before salvation (Mk 16:15, 16). Thus, one is baptized and salvation is granted. For one to say they are saved without baptism or before baptism would be to wrest the scriptures to destruction (2 Pet 3:16-18). A careful examination of scripture stubbornly maintains the conclusion that water baptism is essential to salvation. Inflexibly a part of the plan is that without belief, repentance and confession baptism would have no avail.

Some say that being baptized is a work and so man is earning his salvation. Man is saved by grace (Eph 2:5, 8, 8) and does not earn his salvation. However, this does not mean salvation is without conditions. Man must do the will of God (Matt 7:21). Those who are saved have obeyed Christ (Heb 5:8, 8). If one does not obey the gospel, they are warned of impending ruin (2 Thes 1:6-9). Obeying the gospel demands that one be baptized. When we respond to the command of God, it is a work of righteousness not merit. Baptism is essential to salvation. Salvation is a natural outgrowth of obedient faith.

FAMILY CARE
A Message from Our Shepherds

Mission Printing prints a tract called 'A Guide to Find the True Church' by Michael G. Urangikor, that is an excellent aid to understanding the Church. Every Christian should read the entire tract. Below is just a portion of this 12 page tract.

Membership Requirements

Men were not called members of the New Testament church by a decision to join it in a crusade or by filling out a form. They were not known as members because their parents were prominent members of the church. The Scripture, the standard of authority, has provided some conditions for an alien sinner who wants to become a Christian. Notice that to become a member of this church is to become a Christian.

The conditions are:

1. Believe in Christ (John 8:24; Hebrews 11:6);
2. Repent of your sins (Acts 17:30-31; Luke 13:3-5);
3. Confess your faith in Christ Jesus as the Son of the living God (Romans 10:9-10). Confession of sin is only for those who fall away from the faith (I John 1:7-9) and not for alien sinners, and finally;
4. Be baptized into Christ (Acts 2:38; Mark 16:16).

The purposes of baptism:

1. To wash away sins (Acts 22:16).
2. For the remission of sins (Acts 2:38).
3. To enter into the one body, the true church (Acts 2:47; I Corinthians 12:13).
4. To become a member of God's kingdom (John 3:3-5).
5. To be saved (Mark 16:16; I Peter 3:21).
6. To put on Christ (Galatians 3:27).

Baptism is not pouring or sprinkling as it is being practiced by some denominations. It is a figure of the death, burial and resurrection of Christ (Romans 6:3-5). Its action is immersion (Acts 8:38-39). Baptism does not require examination or official aptitude tests whereby if one fails he may be restricted from it. Finally, an infant is not a subject for baptism.

--Richard Renfro

Declare These Things

The first century pagan world was steeped in base, repulsive sins of the flesh. Thus, the hearts and minds of Christians needed to be retrained to think and act in higher more noble ways.

In his letter to Titus, the apostle Paul reminded him that the grace of God had appeared, teaching us that denying ungodliness and worldly lust, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in this present world (Titus 2:12f). In verse fifteen Paul urged his younger contemporary to declare these things. The language suggests that the declaration was to be continuous.

Though out the New Testament, emphasis is placed on the need for Christians to leave the old nature behind and to assume the nature of the new man. Paul stressed that in Christ one is a new creation; the old has passed away, all things have become new (2 Corinthians 5:17; Romans 6:4, 6, 22). Peter insisted that converts to Christ had spent sufficient time living as Gentiles lived, and that they should no longer live by such low standards (1 Peter 4:2f).

The declining moral climate surrounding many modern Christians should remind us of Peter's words to his brethren. There were those whose eyes were full of adultery and who could not cease from sin. Their hearts had been trained in covetous practices, and they could only be described as accursed children (2 Peter 2:14).

William Barclay has described such individuals thusly: "These people have actually trained their minds and hearts to concentrate on nothing but the forbidden desire. They have deliberately fought with conscience until they have destroyed it; they have deliberately wrestled with God until they have thrown God out of their lives. Their lives have been a dreadful battle to destroy virtue and to train themselves in the technique of sin" (**The Daily Study Bible** p 392f).

As Titus was admonished, we, too, need to declare that "the grace of God has appeared, teaching us, that denying worldly lust and ungodliness, we are to live soberly and righteously, and godly in the present age". (Hollis Miller, gospel preacher, Cadiz, Kentucky).

FAMILY NEWS:

News at Belt Line

Call in your information to the office at:
972-790-8606 by Sunday evening

NOVEMBER ASSIGNMENTS

GREETERS:

Nov. 5 - Front Foyer – Don & Anne Herriage
Back Foyer – Richard & Carolyn Renfro

Nov. 12 - Front Foyer – Donna Davis & Nancy Pond
Back Foyer – Glen Kelly & Myrtle Wade

Communion Preparation: Ray & LaFon Simpson

Contribution Counters: Bobby England & Curtis Vaughan

SERMONS

Nov. 5 – a.m. “Have Faith In God”

Mark 11:20-25

p.m. “The End Is Better”

Ecclesiastes 7:8-10

**HAVE YOU INVITED
SOMEONE TO WORSHIP
THIS WEEK?**

Ongoing Health Concerns: Bobby Bowen, Dessie Ross, Carol Swinney, David & Faye West, Laquita Baker, Nellie Melvin, Grady Fowler, Jerry Catlin, Paul Kelly, David Hawkins, Beverly McKey, Barbara Reagan, Anne Herriage, Jimmy Webb, Alice Worthy, Kent Conner

Home Bound Members: Helen Thomas, Mary Walker, Dessie Ross, Gearldean Jones

Nursing Homes: **Max Melton** – Irving Nursing & Rehabilitation
Nellie Melvin – Avalon Memory Care

Military: Chris & Abigail Mathews

EVENTS

MISSION PRINTING – Mission Printing will meet every **SUNDAY** at 4:00 p.m. in the Jr. Auditorium to collate and staple tracts to be sent all over the world. Please come help us and enjoy the wonderful Christian fellowship.

LADIES

Ladies Bible Class will be on **Tuesday, October 31**. Please mark your calendar and join us at 9:45 a.m. The lesson will be “**Preaching In Galilee**”. Ladies make plans to attend and bring a friend.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Kent Conner was released from the hospital.
Dean Webb was released from the hospital. He will be following up with his cardiologist this week.
Virgil Thomas, a friend of the Matthews is in critical condition in Searcy Arkansas and needs our prayers.

CONGRAULATIONS

Chris & Abby Mathews have a new baby boy. His name is **Parker Garrett Mathews**, born on 10/23/17 weighing in at 8 lbs. 5 oz. Proud great-grandma is **Billie Prince**.

GOSPEL MEETING

Our nightly Gospel Meeting with **Jeff Jenkins** from Lewisville, Texas will start on **November 5th – 8th, 2017**. Service on Sunday night will begin at 6:00 p.m. and Monday – Wednesday night the service will begin at 7:00 p.m. Plan on attending and invite your friends and neighbors to come with you.

Flyers for the Gospel Meeting are in both foyers.

RESPONSE

Susan Krueger placed membership with us Wednesday. Address: 1322 Halifax Grand Prairie, Tx. 75050
Phone: 817-688-7620

There are Thank You Notes on the bulletin board from **Mary Wise** and the **Gilliam Family**.

GROCERY LIST

Grocery bags with a list attached for the children at Christ’s Haven are in both foyers. Please take one and fill it up. The truck will be here to pick them up on **Tuesday, November 14th**.

REMINDER

Turn your clocks back one hour Saturday night.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

11/5/17 – Our Gospel Meeting with Jeff Jenkins

11/5/17 – (TIME CHANGE)

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- Anne Herriage – 10/5
- LaFon Simpson – 10/7
- Geraldean Jones – 10/8
- Annette Kaiser – 10/10
- Walt LaHaye – 10/11
- Mary Bowen – 10/12
- Carolyn Renfro – 10/14
- Janie Walker – 10/19
- Marinell Zaun – 10/20
- Tori Morris – 10/21
- Jan Smithson – 10/22
- Richard Renfro – 10/22
- Barbara Hatcher – 10/24
- Michael Haynes – 10/26
- Letitia Beverly – 10/26
- Bobby England – 10/30
- Sandy Hall – 10/31

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

- Bobby & Brenda England – 10/9
- Robert & Betty Ruckman – 10/10
- Richard & Carolyn Renfro – 10/15
- Darrell & Melissa Allen – 10/24

If unable to serve on the Lord's table, please contact Curtis Vaughan: (469) 216-7580

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THOSE PRIVILEGED TO SERVE THIS SUNDAY

<u>LORD'S TABLE (MORNING)</u>		11/5/17	<u>SUNDAY PRAYERS</u>
<u>Front Table</u>	<u>Rear Table</u>		A.M. – Dean Webb Thomas Rathbun Mike Haynes
Don Herriage	Kenny Mayer		P.M. – Don Herriage Jerry Baker
Alex Mayer	Robert Taylor		
Darrell Allen	Vern Lundquist		<u>SCRIPTURE READING</u>
Randy Reagan	Nathan Allen		A.M. – John Mayer Mark 11:20-25
Curtis Vaughan			P.M. – Curtis Vaughan Ecclesiates 7:8-10
Dorris Walker			
<u>LORD'S TABLE (EVENING)</u>			<u>COMMUNION TO SHUT-INS</u>
Mike Haynes			Glen Kelly
Glen Kelly			
<u>SONG LEADERS</u>			
A.M. – Jerry McKey			
P.M. – Randy Reagan			

FOR THE RECORD: ATTENDANCE & BUDGET NUMBERS

	<u>Last Week</u>	<u>This Week</u>	<u>YTD Avg.</u>	<u>Goal</u>
Sun. Class	66	63	59	100
A.M. Worship	95	100	94	150
P.M. Worship	63	68	66	80
Wed. Class	65	65	64	85
Contribution	\$5658	\$4905	\$5344	\$5220

MISSIONARIES SUPPORTED

- Glen Tattersall – Australia
- Roland & Rose Mohsen – France
- Gary & Nadya Workman – Ukraine
- Charlie & Mary DiPalma – Australia
- Willie & Del Gley – Ghana/Togo, Africa
- David & Paula Tarbet – New Milford, CT
- Ted Lingren – Sisophon Bible School – Cambodia
- Rohan & Sandra Jones – Cape Town, South Africa
- Elangwe & Magdaline Gregory – Wotutu, Cameroon
- Terry & Pam Laurence – Ft. Defiance, Arizona – Navajo
- Dennis & Beth Johnson – Chennai Teacher Training School – India

OTHERS SUPPORTED

- Paper Pulpit – Hurst, Texas
- The Truth In Love – Hurst, Texas
- Wayne Jackson – Christian Courier on the Web
- Christ's Haven Children's Home – Keller, Texas
- Foster's Home for Children – Stephenville, Texas
- Mission Printing Worldwide Literature Distribution

STUDENT PREACHERS SUPPORTED

- Brown Trail School of Preaching – Bedford, Texas
- Dolcey Patino, Roberto Ortiz, Joseph Harris, Nathan Boyd
- Southwest School of Bible Studies – Garrett English

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1202 N. Belt Line Road - Irving, TX 75061

**PERIODICALS POSTAGE
PAID
AT IRVING, TEXAS**